

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and request reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks. Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on October 20, 2006, and the references cited therewith. Applicants appreciate the indication of allowability of claims 2-4, 6, 9-12, and 14-25. Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. As of this amendment, claims 26-27 have been canceled. Claims 1, 8 and 10-11 have been amended and are now believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons stated below.

Replacement sheets are provided for Figures 1, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5 and 6. These formal drawings replace the informal drawings previously submitted. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seetharaman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,774,728) in view of Huang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,294,966). Claims 2-4, 6 and 9-12 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant's independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 9 respectively.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 8 are now in condition for allowance. Since claims 3-7 and 10-13 depend either directly or indirectly upon independent claims 1 and 8, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are in condition for allowance as well.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, it is respectfully submitted that the present application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Thus, early allowance is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner desires personal contact for further disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Attorney at 603.668.6560.

In the event there are any fees due, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 50-2121.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Attachments Formal Drawings (six sheets)